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The humble GRATULATION AND PETITION

Of divers His Majesties Faithfull Subjects of the true Protestant Religion, within the County Palatine of *Lancaster*.

With His Majesties Answer thereunto.

YORK:
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1642.

YORK:

To the Sacred Majeſtie of our moſt gracious Soveraign Lord, *Charles*, By the Grace of God, of *England*, *Scotland*, *France*, and *Ireland* King, Defender of the Faith, &c.

The humble Gratulation and Petition of divers His Majeſties Faithfull Subjects of the true Proteſtant Religion, within the County Palatine of LANCASTER.

Moſt Gracious Soveraign,

THe moſt reall and convincing Teſtimonies of your Princely care for the Advancement of Gods true Religion in your Majeſties Realms, and the common Good of all your Subjects, could no leſſe then draw from us (who have hitherto in theſe ſtirring times ſate ſtill) this humble Acknowledgement of our due and neceſſary Thanks.

WE, with the inmoſt and choiceſt thoughts of our Souls, doe eſteem and prize your Majeſties moſt Righteous Intentions of Governing your Liege people, according to the wholſom Laws of

this Kingdom, a thing ſo often, and with ſuch earneſtneſſe avowed by your Sacred Majeſtie, whereunto we yeeld that hearty Credence which is due to ſo Religious and Righteous a Prince: We do alſo with all humility and thankfulneſſe acknowledge your manifold and evident Manifeſtations to the world, that you affect not an Arbitary Government, but the Common Proſperity and Happineſſe of all your Loyall Subjects, by your readineſſe to joyn with your Parliament in a ſpeedy raiſing of Forces for a timely ſuppreſſion of that odious Rebellion in *Ireland*; By your late Proclamation, for the putting in due execution the Laws againſt Papiſts; By your moſt gracious condeſcending to the deſires of your Great Councell, in ſigning the Bills, for the Triennial Parliament; For relinquiſhing your title of Impoſing upon Merchandiſe, and power of Preſſing Souldiers; For the taking away of the Star-Chamber, and high Commiſſion Courts; For the Regulating of the Councel-Table; As alſo the Bills for the Forreſts and Stannerie Courts, with other moſt neceſſary Act. Moreover, we are confident and well

assured of your Majesties Zeal for the advancement of the true Protestant Religion, and with inexpressible joy do understand your most Christian and Pious Resolution for the preservation of those powerfull encouragements of Industry, Learning, and Piety, the means and honour of the Ministery, for the maintenance and continuance of our Church-Government, and solemn Liturgie of the Church of long continued, and generall Approbation, of the most Pious and Learned of this Nation, and of other Countries, composed according to the Primitive Pattern, by our blessed Martyrs, and other Religious and Learned men: As also your gracious pleasure, That all Abuses of Church and State shall be Reformed, according to the Modell of Queen *Elizabeths* dayes, of ever blessed and famous memory; by the one you have weakned the hopes of the Sacrilegious Devourers of the Churches Patrimonie, (if there be any such) And by the other, at once provided against all Popish Impieties and Idolatries, and also against the growing danger of Anabaptists, Brownists, and other Novelists; all which Piety, Love, and

Justice, we beseech God to return into your Royall Bosom. But yet (most Gracious Soveraign) there is one thing that sads our hearts, and hinders the perfection of our happinesse, which is, The Distance and Misunderstanding between your Majestie and your Parliament; whereby the hearts of your Subjects are filled with Fears and Jealousies, Justice neglected, Sacred Ordinances prophaned, and Trading impaired, to the impoverishing of many of your Liege People. For the Removall whereof, we cannot finde out any lawfull means, without your Majesties assistance and direction.

Wherefore, we humbly beseech your most Excellent Majestie, to continue your most Christian and Pious Resolution of Ruling your People according to the Laws of the Land, and maintaining of the same; of being a zealous Defender of the established Doctrine, Liturgie and Government of our Church, from Heresie, Libertinisme, and Prophanesse, an Advancer of Learning, Piety and Religion, an encourager of painfull Orthodox Preachers; and whatsoever your Parliament shall offer to your Royall

view,

view, conducing to this bleſſed end, the common Good and Tranquility of your Subjects, to be pleaſed to condeſcend unto, and graciouſly to confirme; And withall to declare unto us ſome expedient way, how we may make a dutifull Addreſſe unto your Parliament, for the taking away of thoſe Differences and Impediments which ſtay the happy Proceedings of that moſt Honourable Aſſembly, whereof your Majeſty is the Head (which once removed, we doubt not but you will ſpeedily be as neer your Parliament in Perſon, as in Affection; That there may be a bleſſed Harmony between your Highneſſe and that great Councell) and we ſhall, with all alacritie, obſerve the ſame: Humbly tendering our Lives, and Fortunes for the preſervation of your Royall Perſon, Crowne, and Dignitie, according to our bounden Duty, and Allegiance, and heartily praying for your Majeſties long and proſperous Reigne over us.

HONI SOIT QVI MAL Y PENSE
DIEV ET MON DROIT

At the Court at York, the ſixth of June 1642.

His Majeſtie hath commanded me to give you this His Anſwer to your Petition.

That hee is very glad to finde ſuch reall Acknowledgements of thoſe great Graces which he hath bountifully beſtowed upon this his Kingdom of England, in the time of this Parliament; and likewiſe it is a great contentment to him to finde ſo many true Sons of the Church of England, as by your expreſſions in the ſaid Petition doth plainly appear to him; Aſſuring you, That he ſhall not yeeld in His Zeal and Conſtancy for the maintenance of the true Proteſtant Profeſſion, neither to Queen Elizabeth, nor to His Father of

ever blessed memory, both against Popish Superstition on the one side, and Schismaticall Innovation and Confusion on the other. In the last place, as he doth take in very good part your desire of a good Understanding between his Majestie and his two Houses of Parliament, so likewise he cannot but much commend the way that you take therein: And as for your Directions, if you will but seriously consider his Majesties Just and Necessary Desires expressed in his Answers and Declarations since his coming to York, your Zeal and Knowledge will not need more particular Instructions to make such Addresses to both Houses of Parliament, as the times require, and befitting such loyall and true affected Subjects to your King and Country, as this petition expresseth you to be.